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How to submit a Letter of Inquiry to the Ford Foundation for Seeking Grant

August 1st, 2012

[Link to the main page](#)

The [Ford Foundation](#) has a clear and precise process of accepting enquiries for grant requests. However, the foundation advises all its applicants or grant seekers to go through its priority areas carefully before asking for [funds](#).

Ford [Foundation](#) provides [grants](#) for addressing a variety of issues and under each issue there are specific initiatives under which grant seekers can request [funding](#). But these specific initiatives can have different criteria for grant seekers. For example, the issue related to 'Democratic and Accountable Government' has the initiative called 'Promoting Electoral Reform and Democratic Participation' but under this initiative, only [organizations](#) from [United States](#) can [apply](#). Similarly the 'Climate Change Responses that Strengthen Rural Communities' under the Sustainable Development has grant [opportunities](#) only for organizations based in [Brazil](#), [Indonesia](#), Mexico and Central America.

Therefore, this means that before sending a request for grant to the Ford Foundation, it is important to



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carry out some [research](#) to ensure that your proposed project falls within its priority areas. A good place to start this research is this [link](#).

After assuring yourself that your project does fall under the issue/initiative mentioned by the foundation, you can then move ahead to make the grant inquiry.

Visit this [link](#) and click on 'Begin Grant Inquiry' to begin exploring funding support from the foundation. In the new webpage, select your region and language. You will then be taken to the online grant inquiry form. This form seeks the following information from the [organization](#) requesting grants:

- Contact information for yourself and your organization
- Brief description of your organization
- List of those who would carry out the project
- Description of the purpose of the project and the issues/problems it is intended to address
- Estimated project budget and time frame

An important cross-cutting theme of the foundation is equal [opportunity](#) in all its projects. So make sure that your project has integrated this and you highlight it in the project information you submit.

Every valid grant request (if it falls within its priority issue) will get a confirmation number which will be sent to the applicant. The concerned program team will review the request and then if it suits its priorities and budgetary expectations, it will ask the grant seeker to submit a formal [proposal](#).

There is a grant application guide made available by the foundation that describes all the steps to be taken by the grant seeker while inquiring for a grant. You can download the guide at this [link](#).

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Date: Sept. 10, 2012 Timings: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM GMT

Building a Fundraising Board

Date: Sept. 19, 2012 Timings: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM GMT

How to raise Funds from the European Commission

Date: Sept. 24, 2012 Timings: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM GMT

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Date: Sept. 25, 2012 Timings: 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM GMT

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Funds for NGOs

Resource Guide: Questions Answered on How to Write Proposals – A Basic Guide on Proposal Writing for NGOs

July 2012

This resource guide was created in collaboration with Philantropia Inc, Philantropia Inc., an international fundraising consulting firm, helps organizations around the world to more effectively raise funds. <http://www.philantropia.org>

Videos

- How to raise Funds for Human Rights Projects
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